

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 AEC-11 AF-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NASA-04 NEA-10

NSAE-00 NSC-10 OIC-04 SPC-03 PA-04 PRS-01 RSC-01

SCI-06 SS-20 USIA-15 SAJ-01 MC-02 NSCE-00 /211 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 250340

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM UN UR CH

DISTO

SUBJECT: REDUCTION OF MILITARY BUDGETS (ROB): DISTRIBUTION

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COMMITTEE AND CONSULTANT EXPERTS GROUP

REF: USUN 5694 (NOTAL)

1. IN RESPONSE TO QUERY FROM PRC AND POSSIBLE SIMILAR QUESTIONS FROM OTHERS, YOU SHOULD STATE THAT WE DO NOT INTEND TO PARTICIPATE IN THE "DISTRIBUTION" COMMITTEE CALLED FOR BY SOVIET ROB RESOLUTION WHEN AND IF IT IS FORMED AND CONVENED. IN DISCUSSION YOU SHOULD DRAW ON POINTS MADE IN OUR DEC. 7 EXPLANATION OF VOTE. YOU MAY ALSO NOTE THAT IN VIEW OF ATTITUDES OF FOUR OF THE FIVE SECURITY COUNCIL PERMANENT MEMBERS TOWARD SOV RES, WE BELIEVE CONVENING COMMITTEE WOULD BE FUTILE EXERCISE. ON OTHER HAND, WE CONSIDER THAT APPROACH TO ROB OF MEXICAN RESOLUTION (I.E., CREATION OF AN EXPERTS GROUP BY UNSYG TO STUDY POSSIBLE MILITARY BUDGET REDUCTIONS) COULD BE A POTENTIALLY CONSTRUCTIVE WAY OF ADDRESSING THIS QUESTION AND WE HOPE IT WILL BE POSSIBLE FOR AN AMERICAN EXPERT TO TAKE PART IN THE STUDY.

2. WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO APPROACH CERTAIN WESTERN AND OTHER MISSIONS, SUCH AS UK, FRANCE, AUSTRALIA, CANADA, DENMARK, FRG, NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, AND JAPAN, TO COMMUNICATE OUR HOPE THAT SEVERAL WESTERN EXPERTS WILL PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN STUDY TO HELP STEER IT IN A MORE CONSTRUCTIVE DIRECTION THAN WOULD BE THE CASE IF SOVIETS AND NON-ALIGNED TOOK CHARGE OF STUDY BY DEFAULT. A STUDY ALONG THE LINES WE DESIRE (SEE PARA 3 BELOW) MIGHT EXPOSE THE REAL DEFICIENCIES IN THE SIMPLISTIC SOVIET APPROACH TO THE PROBLEM AND MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR THE SOVIETS TO PROMOTE THEIR PROPAGANDA OBJECTIVES ON THE ROB ISSUE. MOREOVER, BY TAKING ACTIVE ROLE IN STUDY AND BY URGING THAT RELEVANT DATA BE MADE AVAILABLE TO COMMITTEE, WESTERN COUNTRIES COULD USEFULLY HIGHLIGHT EXPECTED SOVIET UNWILLINGNESS TO PROVIDE DETAILED AND MEANINGFUL BUDGET FIGURES.

3. IN OUTLINING WHAT ISSUES WE WOULD EXPECT EXPERT GROUP TO ADDRESS, YOU MAY AGAIN WISH TO DRAW ON DEC. 7 US EXPLANATION OF VOTE. IN PARTICULAR, WE BELIEVE GROUP OF EXPERTS SHOULD EXAMINE (A) PROBLEM OF ARRIVING AT A CONFIDENTIAL

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COMMON DEFINITION OF THE ELEMENTS AND SCOPE OF MILITARY EXPENDITURES; (B) QUESTION OF DEVISING STANDARD ACCOUNTING PROCEDURES FOR MEASURING MILITARY BUDGETS AND EXPENDITURES; (C) APPROPRIATE METHODS FOR EVALUATING THE EFFECTS OF PRICE AND WAGE CHANGES ON NATIONAL MILITARY SPENDING; (D) FEASIBILITY OF COMPARING IN A MEANINGFUL WAY BUDGET FIGURES EXPRESSED IN ONE CURRENCY WITH FIGURES EXPRESSED IN ANOTHER; AND (E) FEASIBILITY OF VARIOUS

TECHNIQUES FOR MONITORING MILITARY SPENDING LEVELS AND CHANGES IN THOSE LEVELS. WE WOULD ALSO EXPECT THE UNSYG TO REQUEST STATES TO PROVIDE THE DETAILED AND MEANINGFUL BUDGET DATA NECESSARY TO MAKE THE STUDY A RESPONSIBLE ONE. YOU SHOULD ALSO POINT OUT THAT IN OUR EXPLANATION OF VOTE WE STATED THAT, PROVIDING THE FOREGOING ISSUES WERE SATISFACTORILY ADDRESSED AND IF UNSYG REQUESTED RELEVANT DATA, WE WOULD COOPERATE WITH THE STUDY.

4. IN 1971 STUDY OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES OF THE ARMS RACE EXPERTS FROM THE US, UK, FRANCE, CANADA, NETHERLANDS, AND JAPAN WERE AMONG THE 14 EXPERTS PARTICIPATING. SIMILAR REPRESENTATION IN ROB STUDY GROUP WOULD CLEARLY BE DESIRABLE IN ORDER TO PUT WEST IN BETTER POSITION TO INFLUENCE TERMS OF REFERENCE AND DEVELOPMENT OF STUDY. YOU SHOULD THEREFORE ENCOURAGE THOSE AMONG THE WESTERN STATES AND JAPAN WHO SHARE OUR VIEWS ON CO-OPERATING WITH STUDY GROUP TO EXPRESS AN INTEREST IN NOMINATING AN EXPERT TO THE SECRETARIAT. IF THE TACTICAL

SITUATION WARRANTS, YOU MAY WISH TO ENCOURAGE WEO GROUP CHAIRMAN TO APPROACH SECRETARIAT IN ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN AS MANY WESTERN EXPERTS ON THE GROUP AS POSSIBLE. GIVEN SPECIAL TREATMENT OF FIVE SC PERMANENT MEMBERS IN RES, CHAIRMAN MIGHT SUGGEST THAT THOSE FIVE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED APART FROM, AND IN ADDITION TO, OTHER STATES IN ALLOCATION TO REGIONAL GROUPS OF INVITATIONS TO NOMINATE EXPERTS. THIS APPROACH COULD PROVIDE WEO'S ADDITIONAL MEMBERSHIP IN GROUP. KISSINGER

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